

DeWare House  
202 East Dixon Street  
Jefferson  
Marion County  
Texas

HABS No. TEX-149

HABS  
TEX  
158-JEF  
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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. TEX-149

DeWARE HOUSE

Location: 202 East Dixon Street, Jefferson, Marion  
County, Texas.

Present Owner  
and Occupant: Mrs. J. M. DeWare, Jr.

Present Use: Residence

Statement of  
Significance: Non-typical example of mid-nineteenth century  
architecture in the northeast Texas region.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Original owner is unknown. It was purchased in the Civil War era by Dr. Robert E. Rowell (Jefferson on the Bayou). The present owner acquired the property in the early 1900's.
2. Date of erection: c. 1850.
3. Architect: Unknown.
4. Alterations and additions: Small addition to south wing. The front steps have been replaced with brick steps.

B. Sources of Information:

Cameron, Rebecca M., and Lester, Ruth G. Jefferson on the Bayou. Marshall, Texas: Demmer Company, 1966.

Interview with Dr. J. M. DeWare, III, Jefferson, Texas, August 31, 1966.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is one of the few structures in the Jefferson vicinity that is finished on the exterior with vertical boards and battens. It is further distinguished by end-chimneys, heavy columns and ornamental trim on the porch.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The main section is approximately 60' (seven-bay front) x 18'. On the north side there is a full-length porch approximately 10' wide. On the south there is an irregularly shaped wing which is approximately 28' x 50'.
2. Foundations: Brick piers.
3. Wall construction and finish: Walls are sawn-timber. Frame finished on the exterior with boards and battens.
4. Porches: There is one full-length porch on the north with seven large, square columns. Between each column head there is ornamental wood trim. The porch railing is also characterized by "gingerbread." On the south wing there is a small porch which is insignificant architecturally.
5. Chimneys: There is a brick chimney at each end of the main section, situated outside of the walls.
6. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: At either end of the main hallway are double doors. These have two-light transoms and one-light side windows. A single door on the north opening onto the west end of the porch is two-panel without sidelights or transom.
  - b. Windows: Windows on the north side of the main section have nine-over-nine wooden, double-hung sash. Windows on the east and west sides are six-over-six wooden, double-hung.
7. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Roofs are gabled. They are covered with asphalt shingles.
  - b. Cornice: Simple cornice construction consisting of 1-inch boards. On the north side there is a division for the architrave and frieze.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: There are two rooms on either side of the main hall in the main section. At the west end of the main section there is one room with an exterior entrance. Contained in the wing to the south are kitchen, dining room and service spaces. The structure has one story.
2. Flooring: Vertical-grain pine, approximately 5" wide, was used throughout.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: The framing for the walls and ceiling is covered with boards. Over these there is wall-paper.
4. Doors: Interior doors are two-panel.
5. Trim: Plain boards were used throughout.
6. Hardware: Iron butts, iron latch hardware with porcelain knobs.
7. Lighting: Modern electrical fixtures throughout.
8. Heating: There are two fireplaces in the main section. These have wood mantels. Gas unit-heaters are used for heating.

D. Site:

Several large trees on the north comprise prominent landscape features. The main section faces north. On the north and west the site rises steeply from the streets. There is a concrete walk from Dixon Street to the front door.

Prepared by Willard B. Robinson, AIA  
Supervisory Architect, HABS  
National Park Service  
August 1966

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made in 1966 during a summer project financed by the National Park Service to record 16 structures in Jefferson and the near-by area. The summer recording team received the cooperation of numerous citizens and organizations who provided office space, lodgings, board, and research assistance. Among the cooperators were the Dan Lester Drilling Company, the Excelsior Hotel, Mrs. A. K. Payne, the

Jessie Allen Wise Garden Club, and the Marion County Chamber of Commerce.

The project was under the direction of A. Lewis Koue of the Historic American Buildings Survey's Western Office in San Francisco. Supervisor of the recording team was Willard B. Robinson, AIA, of Texas Technological College. The team was composed of student architects David L. Bouse of the University of Nebraska, Bob J. Fong of the University of Idaho, Donald Quackenbush of Washington State University, and Robert M. Swanson of the University of Texas. Photographs were made by National Park Service Photographer, Jack E. Boucher.